

Application No. 09/975,479
Amendment dated August 22, 2005
Reply to Final Office Action of May 25, 2005

Docket No. 1232-4778

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application in view of the foregoing amendment and following remarks.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-19 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 9, 10, 18 and 19 are independent. All of the pending claims stand rejected in the Office action. By this amendment, independent claims 1, 9, 10, 18 and 19 are amended. No new matter has been added by this amendment.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-4, 9, 10-13, 18 and 19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,446,108 to Rosenberg et al. ("Rosenberg") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,426,946 to Sengodan ("Sengodan").

One of the aspects of the present invention as featured in claim 1, for example, recites a communication terminal connected to both a service provider and a look-up service that registers service objects of the service provider. The communication terminal of claim 1 searches for a look-up service, and if the search is successful, acquires a desired service object directly from the look-up service. If, however, the search is unsuccessful, the communication terminal issues a transmission request to the service provider directly. The communication terminal then acquires a desired service object transmitted directly from the service provider without an involvement of the look-up service. Other independent claims (i.e., claims 9, 10, 18 and 19) recite similar features to claim 1 as discussed herein.

As Applicants explained in the Amendment previously filed on April 18, 2005, Rosenberg discloses a wide area network service in which a client can locate a particular service

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from a service provider. However, the Service Broker of Rosenberg receives information on a desired service from a client and returns the address of a server that provides the service to client, i.e., the Service Broker does not send a service object, but a server address to a client. Moreover, Rosenberg fails to show or suggest what process would be executed if the Service Broker is not detected.

Sengodan teaches performing multicast communication to a first scope. Sengodan further teaches multicasting to a second scope which is greater than the first one, if no confirmation message is received. In other words, Sengodan teaches sending a request message to an increased scope. Sengodan, however, fails to show or suggest sending a request to a service provider if no look-up service is detected, as is required by the present invention as featured in independent claims 1, 9, 10, 18 and 19 as discussed above.

Accordingly, each of independent claims 1, 9, 10, 18 and 19 is believed neither anticipated by nor rendered obvious in view of Rosenberg and Sengodan, either taken alone or in combination, for at least the reasons discussed above.

Nonetheless, the independent claims have been further amended for clarification. In particular, amended claim 1 recites among others "first acquisition means" for acquiring a desired service object transmitted from the searched look-up service if the look-up service can be searched. Amended claim 1 further recites "second acquisition means" to acquire a desired service object transmitted from the service provider responsive to the transmission request notification issued by the transmission request notification means.

Applicants believe that each of independent claims 1, 9, 10, 18 and 19 as amended is further distinguishable over the cited references (i.e., Rosenberg and Sengodan).

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Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1, 9, 10, 18 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

Applicants have not individually addressed the rejections of the dependent claims because Applicants submit that the independent claims from which they respectively depend are in condition for allowance as set forth above. Applicants however reserve the right to address such rejections of the dependent claims should such be necessary.

Applicants believe that the application as amended is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

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AUTHORIZATION

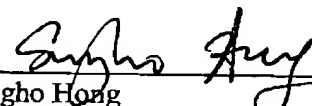
No petitions or additional fees are believed due for this amendment and/or any accompanying submissions. However, to the extent that any additional fees and/or petition is required, including a petition for extension of time, Applicants hereby petition the Commissioner to grant such petition, and hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees, including any fees which may be required for such petition, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500 (Order No. 1232-4778). A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ENCLOSED.

An early and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: August 22, 2005

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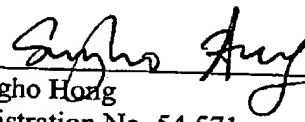
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